

WASHINGTON STATE

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS OFFICER

MONTHLY REPORT

MARCH 2004

CATEGORY	2004	2003	YTD 04	YTD 03
CSEPP INCIDENTS	3	0	9	4
DOE INCIDENTS	1	1	1	3
FIRE	18	14	33	37
HAZMAT	151	150	429	407
OTHER	20	25	64	64
911 OUTAGES	1	2	4	6
SAR	32	27	107	101
TERRORIST	0	0	0	0
WEATHER	5	4	18	11
CGS INCIDENTS	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	231	223	665	633

LEGEND

CSEPP	Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program
DOE	Department of Energy, Hanford Site
SAR	Search and Rescue Missions
HAZMAT	Hazardous Materials Incidents
WEATHER	Weather Incidents (throughout state, i.e., Flood, High Winds, and Snow)
CGS	Columbia Generating Station
FIRE	Forest Fire Incidents
OTHER	This category includes a wide variety of incidents, i.e., Tsunami, Earthquake, Critical Incident Stress Debriefings, Bomb Threat, etc...
911	911 Service Outages

SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

- On March 4, a Winter Storm Warning was issued for the West Slopes of the Cascade Mountains leaving up to 18 inches of new snow. The warning was canceled during the evening hours of March 5 without major impact reported.

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- On March 10, Skagit County reported a 13 year-old child had been abducted in Mount Vernon. A state-wide Amber Alert was requested through the Washington State Patrol and was issued by the State Emergency Operations Officer in attempt to locate the child. The Child and her abductor were located later the same morning in Clackamas, Oregon and were taken into the custody of local law enforcement authorities.
- On March 12, the Washington State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) activated to Phase II Enhanced Operations effective 0650 hrs due to the report of a landslide affecting the Cedar River and in support of potential flood fighting operations near Maple Valley. The EOC returned to Phase I Normal Operations later the same morning once local officials determined there was no threat to life or property in the affected area.
- On March 14, the Washington State Emergency Operations Officer coordinated a deep sea diving team from Friday Harbor to assist the Washington State Department of Transportation Aviation Division (DOT) in identifying the location of a downed aircraft and possible recovery of its occupants. On March 16 the plane was located in Case Inlet, North of Herron Island and on the following day the bodies of 2 men were retrieved.
- On March 16, the Emergency Operations Officer issued a state-wide Amber Alert in support of law enforcement authorities to assist in the search for a 2 year-old girl abducted in Walla Walla County. The Amber Alert was cancelled on March 17 when the girl was located safe in Fallon, Nevada. Both the child and her abductor were taken into the custody of local law enforcement authorities.
- On March 17, the University of Washington Seismology Lab reported a 3.8 magnitude earthquake had occurred at 3:34 am located 3.5 miles ENE of Mount Vernon in Skagit County with a depth of 0.0 miles. No damages were reported, however the quake was widely felt throughout the area.
- On March 17, an approaching storm system prompted the National Weather Service (NWS) to issue a Gale Warning for all inland marine waters, a Winter Storm Warning for the Western Slopes of the Northern Cascades and a High Wind Warning for the Lower Columbia Basin and Foothills of the Blue Mountains. The NWS finally terminated these weather warnings at 10:47 p.m. the next day as the high winds subsided. No major storm damages were reported as a result of this storm system.

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- On March 24, the Washington State Emergency Operations Officer participated in a CAIRA Drill conducted by the Umatilla Army Chemical Depot.
- On March 24, an approaching storm system prompted the National Weather Service (NWS) to issue a Marine Storm Warning and High Surf Advisory for the Washington Coast, a Gale Warning for inland marine waters of Camano Island to Point Roberts and a High Wind Watch for Pacific and Wahkiakum Counties. The NWS terminated these weather warnings late the next day as the storm's strength diminished. No major storm damages were reported as a result of this storm system.
- On March 27, Jefferson County initiated a search for 2 missing men on the Bogachiel River trail. Search dogs from Pierce and Grays Harbor Counties and Explorer Search and Rescue teams from Kitsap County were coordinated to aid in the search. The 2 men were located by helicopter and supplies and park personnel were dropped in to their location so they would have the resources to walk out of the area safely the next day.
- On March 27, Snohomish County conducted a search for 2 over due hikers in the Three Finger Mountain area north of Granite Falls. Additional mountain rescue teams were coordinated from King and Pierce Counties to assist. The individuals were located the following day in good condition.
- On March 27, Kittitas County reported a 1 year-old child had been abducted from a Safeway parking lot and requested the activation of a state-wide Amber Alert. The alert request was processed through the servicing state patrol regional dispatch center and the alert was issued by the Washington State Emergency Operations Officer using the Emergency Alert System. The child and the abductor were both located early the following morning and were taken into the custody of local law enforcement authorities.
- On March 28, Cowlitz County opened a search for a missing 28 year-old female that became lost from her ATV party 10 miles west of Longview on the Abernathy creek trail. SAR volunteers were coordinated to assist in the search from Pierce, Clark and Wahkiakum Counties. The individual was located in good condition the following day.

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- For the month of March 2004 the SEOO's:
 - Ø Issued 46 warnings to jurisdictions for imminent or occurring emergencies
 - Ø Issued 11 warnings to tribal nations for imminent or occurring emergencies
 - Ø Conducted 471 notifications to state agency liaisons for imminent or occurring emergencies
 - Ø Coordinated 22 resources for search, rescue, recovery and response operations
 - Ø Participated in 36 exercises of which 25 were vessel spill drills
 - Ø Made 1,151 and answered 1,486 telephone calls
 - Ø Conducted 1,674 National Warning System Tests, conducted 232 Comprehensive Emergency Management Network (CEMNET) radio tests. (connects all counties and many cities via Zetron Radio Console)
 - Ø Conducted 56 dedicated line tests with the Chemical Stockpile Emergency Preparedness Program (CSEPP)
 - Ø Conducted 4 dedicated line tests with the Department of Energy, Hanford Site (DOE)
 - Ø Conducted 10 dedicated line tests with the Columbia Generating Station (CGS)
 - Ø Conducted 29 down wind trajectory connectivity communications tests with the Umatilla Military Storage Depot (D2PUFF)